



**OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
HAGÅTÑA, GUAM 96910  
U.S.A.**

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 2014- 08**

**RELATIVE TO ESTABLISHING A SELF-ADVOCATE IN ACTION (SIÑA)  
COUNCIL FOR THE TERRITORY OF GUAM**

**WHEREAS**, currently, there is no existing self-advocacy group on Guam. The Guam Developmental Disabilities Council (GDDC) recommends the Self-advocate in Action (SiñA) to serve as the state self-advocacy organization for Guam. The Council describes SiñA as a cross-disability organization that promotes self-advocacy for persons with all types of disabilities, with the leadership of its own members; and

**WHEREAS**, under the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act of 2000 (the DD Act), the state or territory council is mandated to develop a five (5) year state plan in order to receive federal funding. In the state plan, the council must establish or strengthen a program for the direct funding of a state self-advocacy organization led by individuals with developmental disabilities who are considered leaders, and to provide leadership training to individuals with developmental disabilities who may become leaders; and support and expand participation of individuals with developmental disabilities in cross-disability and culturally diverse leadership conditions; and

**WHEREAS**, the purpose of SiñA is to promote self-advocacy and self-determination for people with disabilities, and their families, by assisting, educating, forming alliances, and participating together to further strengthen the efforts to accomplish individual goals to improve one's quality of life and independence; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2009, self-advocacy groups were trained to facilitate workshop trainings and mentor participants in completing self-advocacy projects,



which began an interest for SiñA. In 2011, self-advocates approved a constitution and by-laws for SiñA, which later received the status as a charitable and educational organization; and

**WHEREAS**, on April 1, 2013, by way of Resolution No. 58-32 (COR), *I Mina'Trentai Dos Na Liheslaturan Guåhan*, on behalf of the people of Guam, requested *I Maga'Låhen Guåhan* to establish a Self-advocate in Action (SiñA) Council by way of an Executive Order, as a state self-advocacy organization of Guam, as recommended by the Guam Developmental Disabilities Council (GDDC) to promote and support the development of leadership and self-advocacy among people with developmental disabilities, family members, and the island community.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, EDDIE BAZA CALVO**, *I Maga'Låhen Guåhan*, **Governor of Guam**, by virtue of the authority invested in me by the Organic Act of Guam, as amended, and the laws of Guam, do order:

A SiñA (Self-advocate in Action) Council shall be established. The membership of the council shall be comprised of the following:

- Board of Directors of seven (7) members
- Sixty (60) regular members that are individuals with disabilities
- Fifteen (15) associate members
- One (1) advisor

**SIGNED AND PROMULGATED** at Hagåtña, Guam, this 28<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2014.



  
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**EDDIE BAZA CALVO**

*I Maga'Låhen Guåhan*  
Governor of Guam